

911 service is useful, but should not force innovative communication technologies to be compromised or blocked. Following this regulation to it's logical conclusion, every PC, laptop and audio-capable PDA will need to have a GPS in it and be registered with the government, since every such device could be used for a VoIP call (wireless or not).

What about devices (and programs) that don't contact the PSTN? Right now, they appear not to be covered, but the justification used by the commission would easily extend to such devices and programs. What about instant-message programs that include audio? What about videophones/chat? What if the user doesn't use audio because they're deaf? Etc.

Will "softphones", IM clients, etc need to be licensed or registered in order to be used? Who will be responsible? Off-shore companies that write/sell the software? The user who installs it?